

DORRANCE DANCE: JUNGLE BLUES, THREE TO ONE, MYELINATION

Thursday, March 14, 2019, at 7:30pm Tryon Festival Theatre

PROGRAM

DORRANCE DANCE: JUNGLE BLUES, THREE TO ONE, MYELINATION

DANCERS

Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie Christopher Broughton Elizabeth Burke Warren Craft Brittany DeStefano Michelle Dorrance Claudia Rahardjanoto Byron Tittle Matthew "Megawatt" West Nicholas Van Young

MUSICIANS

Donovan Dorrance Aaron Marcellus Gregory Richardson Nicholas Van Young Warren Craft

Michelle Dorrance, artistic director Donald Borror, executive director Christopher Marc, production manager/sound engineer Tina Huang Abrams, company manager Nicholas Van Young, associate artistic director Olivia Maggi, assistant to the artistic director Elizabeth Burke, rehearsal director Donovan Dorrance, music director Kathy Kaufmann, lighting designer Serena Wong, lighting supervisor Diego Quintanar, technical director/assistant stage manager Margaret Selby, Selby/Artists Management, artist representative

JUNGLE BLUES (2012)

Michelle Dorrance, choreography Christopher Broughton, solo improvisation Kathy Kaufmann, lighting design Amy Page, costume design

Fred "Jelly Roll" Morton: Jungle Blues Courtesy of Edwin H Morris & Company, A Division of MPL Music Publishing, INC. (ASCAP)

Full company, with solos by:	Claudia Rahardjanoto
	Elizabeth Burke and Nicholas Van Young
	Michelle Dorrance and Warren Craft
	Byron Tittle
	Christopher Broughton

THREE TO ONE (2011)

Michelle Dorrance, choreography Kathy Kaufmann, lighting design Michelle Dorrance and Mishay Petronelli, costume design

Richard D James: *Nannou* Published By: BMG Blue (BMI) obo Chrysalis Music Ltd; Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Thom Yorke: A Rat's Nest Courtesy of Kobalt Music

Performers:

Michelle Dorrance Byron Tittle Matthew "Megawatt" West

The creation of *Three to One* was made possible, in part, by the Danspace Project 2010-2011 Commissioning Initiative with support from the Jerome Foundation. Danspace's Commissioning Initiative is a core component of the Choreographic Center Without Walls (CW²).

MYELINATION (2017)

Michelle Dorrance , choreography, in collaboration with and featuring improvisation by the dancers Ephrat "Bounce" Asherie and Matthew "Megawatt" West, additional choreography Prawn til Dante (Donovan Dorrance and Gregory Richardson) with Aaron Marcellus, original music Kathy Kaufmann, lighting design Amy Page, costume design Elizabeth Burke and Byron Tittle, dance captains

Full company, with musicians:	Donovan Dorrance (piano/clarinet)
	Aaron Marcellus (vocals/keys)
	Gregory Richardson (bass/clarinet)
	Nicholas Van Young (percussion)
	Warren Craft (additional guitar)

Myelination (2017 and 2015) was commissioned by New York City Center for the Fall for Dance Festival with generous support from the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation. Music for *Myelination* (2015) was commissioned by the Charles and Joan Gross Family Foundation. *Myelination* (2017) was also commissioned, in part, by Cal Performances, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, California

Myelination (2017) was made possible by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Myelination (2017) was supported by New Music USA, made possible by annual program support and/ or endowment gifts from Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, New York State Council on the Arts, Helen F. Whitaker Fund, and Aaron Copland Fund for Music.

***PHOTO CREDIT: ILLINI STUDIO**

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PROFILES

DORRANCE DANCE is an award-winning tap dance company based out of New York City. The company's work aims to honor tap dance's uniquely beautiful history in a new, dynamic, and compelling context; not by stripping the form of its tradition, but by pushing it—rhythmically, technically, and conceptually. The company's inaugural performance garnered a Bessie Award for "blasting open our notions of tap" and the company continues its passionate commitment to expanding the audience of tap dance, America's original art form.

Founded in 2011 by artistic director and 2015 MacArthur Fellow Michelle Dorrance, the company has received countless accolades and rave reviews, and has performed for packed houses at venues including The Joyce Theater, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, New York City Center, Vail Dance Festival, New York City Center, Vail Dance Festival, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Carolina Performing Arts at UNC Chapel Hill, Works and Process at the Guggenheim, Cal Performances at the University of California, Berkeley, among many others including international venues in Canada, France, Germany, Spain, England, Hong Kong, and Singapore. For more information, go to www.dorrancedance.com.

PERFORMERS

MICHELLE DORRANCE (artistic director/ choreographer/dancer) is a New York City-based artist. Mentored by Gene Medler (North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble), she was lucky to study under many of the last master hoofers. Career highlights include STOMP, Derick Grant's Imagine Tap!, Jason Samuels Smith's Charlie's Angels/ Chasing the Bird, Ayodele Casel's Diary of a Tap Dancer, Mable Lee's Dancing Ladies, and playing bass with the indie band Darwin Deez. Company work includes Savion Glover's Ti Dii. Manhattan Tap, Barbara Duffy, JazzTap Ensemble, Rumba Tap, and solo work ranging from *The Late Show* with Stephen Colbert to commissions for the Martha Graham Dance Company and American Ballet Theatre. A 2018 Doris Duke Artist, 2017 Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellow, and 2015 MacArthur Fellow, Dorrance is humbled to have been acknowledged/supported by United States Artists, The Joyce Theater, New York City Center, the Alpert Awards, Jacob's Pillow, Princess Grace Foundation, The Field, American Tap Dance Foundation, and the Bessie Awards. Dorrance holds a BA from New York University and is a Capezio Athlete.

EPHRAT "BOUNCE" ASHERIE (dancer), a 2016 Bessie Award winner for Innovative Achievement in Dance, is a New York City-based B-girl, dancer, and choreographer. As artistic director of Ephrat Asherie Dance (EAD), she has presented work at Jacob's Pillow, FiraTarrega, and New York Live Arts, among others. Asherie has received numerous awards to support her work including a National Dance Project award from the New England Foundation of the Arts, a Mondo Cane! Commission from Dixon Place, and an Extended Life Residency from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council. Asherie has taught at Wesleyan University and is on faculty at Broadway Dance Center. For more information please visit www.ephratasheriedance.com.

CHRISTOPHER BROUGHTON (dancer) was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. Broughton began dancing at the age of 11 and has never looked back. Under the instruction of Paul and Arlene Kennedy at Universal Dance, he became a member of the Kennedy Tap Company, receiving the national NAACP ACT-SO award twice. He now travels worldwide, both as a soloist and with Jason Samuels Smith's A.C.G.I. (Anybody Can Get It), Rasta Thomas' *Tap Stars*, and Dorrance Dance. Performances include New York City Center's Cotton Club Parade; Juba! Masters of *Tap and Percussive Dance* at the Kennedy Center; and Broadway's Tony and Astaire award-winning production After Midnight. **ELIZABETH BURKE** (rehearsal director/dancer) is a Chapel Hill, North Carolina, native who spent 11 years under the direction of her mentor Gene Medler in the acclaimed North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. Burke has been with Dorrance Dance since its inception in 2010. She pursues her own choreographic work, teaches, and performs as a soloist on occasion. She is an alumna of the School at Jacob's Pillow and Marymount Manhattan College with a BA in political science and a BA in communication arts, magna cum laude.

WARREN CRAFT (dancer/musician) is a New York City tap dancer who has trained in ballet with both the American Ballet Theatre and the School of American Ballet. He has been a member of Brenda Bufalino's New American Tap Dance Orchestra, Max Pollak's RumbaTap, and Dorrance Dance. He moves with "bizarre physicality," and "unconventional eloquence" (*The New York Times*).

BRITTANY DESTEFANO (dancer) is a multi-form dancer from Upstate New York. She studied under the mentorship of Derick K. Grant and is an alumna of The School at Jacob's Pillow tap program (2012 and 2014). Currently, she is working and studying in New York City as a member of Caleb Teicher & Company, Parangole Collective, and Dorrance Dance. **DONOVAN DORRANCE** (music director/ composer/musician) hails from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where he studied piano, guitar, drums, and voice before attending the University of North Carolina for a BA in philosophy. In 2014, Dorrance moved to Brooklyn to assist his sister's company and pursue his passion for music. In addition to composing music with Gregory Richardson for Dorrance Dance, Dorrance composes music for film and theatre, collaborating with students from New York University and Columbia University.

AARON MARCELLUS (co-composer/musician) is a singer, vocal coach, writer, musician, dancer, and actor from Atlanta, Georgia. Marcellus started in gospel music and has performed around the world. He has recorded albums and was voted Top 24 on *American Idol* in 2011. After a world tour, Marcellus was featured in a Chapstick commercial, NBC's Next Caller, and was a cast member of *STOMP*. Marcellus also hosts a burlesque show at Duane Park (New York City). Most importantly, he founded both Surrender To Love, LLC, a foundation that supports arts programs and seeks to feed the hungry, and Adventure Voice, a training program offering vocal classes for groups and individuals. CLAUDIA RAHARDJANOTO (dancer), born and raised in Berlin, Germany, started dancing professionally at the age of nine at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. Named one of "25 To Watch" by Dance Magazine in 2010 and featured on the cover of Dance Teacher magazine in 2011, Rahardianoto has danced with and learned from Andreas Dänel, Sven Göttlicher, Dianne Walker, Ted Levy, Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards, Michelle Dorrance, Derick K. Grant, Brenda Bufalino, Roxane Butterfly, Andrew Nemr, Barbara Duffy, Jane Goldberg, Jared Grimes, Max Pollak, Michael Minery, the late Harold 'Stumpy' Cromer, and the legendary Mable Lee, amongst others. She is grateful to be able to share her passion and love for tap dance through her performances and teaching worldwide.

GREGORY RICHARDSON (composer/musician) is a composer, performer, and multi-instrumentalist and has been a member of Dorrance Dance since 2011. He learned rhythm and blues at an early age from a family of musicians where everyone could play at least a little piano and everyone was expected to sing. The Tucson, Arizona, native studied at Bard College (Annandale-on-Hudson, New York) and has been working as a professional musician in New York City for nearly two decades. Richardson is known for his winning combination of natural talent, hard work, and dedication and is fortunate to have traveled the world several times over with various ensembles. He lives and works in Brooklyn, New York, where he has been a part of countless collaborations.

BYRON TITTLE (dancer) is a multi-faceted dancer based in New York where he studied extensively at Broadway Dance Center, The American Tap Dance Foundation, and then later toured the country with The Pulse on Tour. After finding commercial success, dancing for the likes of Janet Jackson, Nicki Minaj, and Laurieann Gibson, Tittle is focused on pushing the boundaries in the concert dance world. He has been touring with Dorrance Dance since 2014 and continues to approach each show with vigor and excitement. His "elegant and polished lines" (*The Brooklyn Rail*) help captivate audiences worldwide as he feels most at home with the company.

MATTHEW "MEGAWATT" WEST (dancer) started dancing at age 16 on his church's dance team in Queens, New York, and with the company On Point Choreography where he learned challenging choreography and mastered different styles within hip hop dance. He has competed in several B-boy competitions and strives to impart knowledge and wisdom on the next generation of dancers. He has taught at Coney Island's Shining Angels Studio and at afterschool programs in Queens, New York. West is an avid listener of house music and a dedicated student of house dance, training with the New York City crew MAWU, Conrad Rochester, and James "Cricket" Colter. NICHOLAS VAN YOUNG (associate artistic director/dancer/musician) is a dancer, musician, choreographer, and a 2014 Bessie Award recipient. He began his professional career at age 16 under Acia Gray and Deidre Strand with Tapestry Dance Company in Austin, Texas, eventually rising to principal dancer and resident choreographer. Since moving to New York, he has performed with Manhattan Tap, RumbaTap, Dorrance Dance, Beat the Donkey, has toured as a drummer for Darwin Deez, and spent almost a decade performing with STOMP where he performed the lead role and acted as rehearsal director. Van Young tours both nationally and internationally, teaching and performing at various tap festivals, and founded Sound Movement dance company and Institute for The Rhythmic Arts (IFTRA). He is thrilled to have found a home with Dorrance Dance, co-creating and developing ETM: Double Down and the Guggenheim Rotunda Project, both collaborative efforts with Michelle Dorrance.

PRODUCTION TEAM

KATHY KAUFMANN (lighting designer) is a New York City native and has been happily designing for Dorrance Dance since its inception (SOUNDspace, The Blues Project, ETM, Myelination). A resident designer at Danspace Project whose work has been seen throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia, she also teaches at Sarah Lawrence College (New York). Kaufmann is a two-time Bessie recipient and was nominated for her work on Rebecca Davis's Bloowst Windku in 2015. Recent projects include designs for Moriah Evans, Mariana Valencia, Jonathan Gonzales, David Parker, Tatyana Tennenbaum, Mina Nishimura, Morgan Bassichis, and Ephrat Asherie Dance.

CHRISTOPHER MARC (production manager/ sound engineer) has been with Dorrance Dance since June of 2016. Marc has worked as a sound engineer with several companies around the country including The Kennedy Center, Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Mills Entertainment, Aquila Theatre, and Harlem Stage. His sound design credits include More Forever, Caleb Teicher & Company, and The Magic Flute, Pacific Symphony. His off-Broadway credits include The Black Book; Aquila Theatre National Tour: Wuthering Heights, The Tempes, Fahrenheit 451, Twelfth Night; Skylark Opera: Berlin to Broadway, Candide, Putting it Together, La Rondine; Artistry MN: God of Carnage, Striking 12, Death of a Salesman; Lyric Arts: Becky's New Car, Sherlock Holmes, The Boxcar Children, Over the Tavern, and Death of a Salesman.

DIEGO QUINTANAR (technical director/assistant stage manager) started working in theatre production as a student at the College of the Holy Cross (Worcester, Massachusetts). He was introduced to Dorrance Dance through his work with the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum's Works & Process series as a project coordinator. Other credits include Latino Cultural Center and Wyly Theatre in Dallas, Texas, where he worked as a carpenter and electrician; off-Broadway musical *I Like It Like That* as production manager in New York City; and Shen Wei Dance Arts and Dance Heginbotham in New York City as an assistant stage manager and scenic charge.

SERENA WONG (lighting supervisor) is a Brooklyn-based freelance lighting designer for theatre and dance. Her designs have been seen at New York Live Arts, Irondale Center, the New Ohio Theatre, and Danspace Project. She enjoys biking, beekeeping, and bread baking.